

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 16 claims 17 and 18 have been canceled; claims 19-24 have been added. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-16 and 19-24 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-8, 10 and 12-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent Number 5,790,817 (Asghar). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of these claims.

The Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to an excerpted limitation from claim 1:

1.

...at least one analog signal manifold comprising
input lines, output lines, and nodes for making connections
between input and output lines, said input lines and output lines being
connectable to predetermined resources and said nodes being arranged
to perform a mathematic operation on an incoming signal on the input
lines.

The Applicant respectfully submits that a problem solved by the present invention is to provide low cost, flexible, signal processing in a radio base station. The analog signal manifold recited above is also defined in the Applicant's specification as a resource. "A specific resource is the manifold 39 (k). In one embodiment, one HF (High Frequency) manifold is foreseen combining all possible routings between HF components like DACs 41 (m), TXs 35 (l), ADCs 43 (n), RXs 37 (j) and signal generators (not shown; e. g. , necessary to generate signals with an intermediate frequency in GSM systems as is known to persons skilled in the art). The manifold 39 (k) includes simple operations like adding, subtracting or multiplication of analogue signals, as will be explained below." (page 6, line 31-page 7, line 4) The Applicant

respectfully submits that the prior art cited does not disclose at least this limitation present in the independent claims of the present application

The Ashgar reference is cited for, among other things, disclosing an analog signal manifold as claimed in the limitation cited above. The portion of Ashgar that is cited discloses a "...[d]igital system includes analog to digital conversion logic ...and digital to analog conversion logic..." (col 8, lines 41-42). The Applicant respectfully submits that Ashgar, either in the cited portion or in the rest of the Ashgar reference, does not disclose an analog signal manifold, merely ADC and DAC conversion logic. As claimed, and disclosed in the Applicant's specification, the analog manifold does not convert the signals, but performs simple mathematical operations on incoming signals. In fact, the Applicant discloses in one embodiment, that of a Radio Base Station, a HF manifold that combines all routings between DACs, TXs, ADCs, RXs, and signal generators (Figure 9, page 26, lines 21-38). The manifold connects to DACs and ADCs, the manifold is not part of the DACs and ADCs. Further, the manifold is much like a high frequency matrix with analog functions like adding, subtracting or multiplying HF signals in the cross points of the matrix.

MPEP § 2131 provides: A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claims.

Contrary to the rejection in paragraph 2 of the Detailed Action that all elements are disclosed in the Ashgar reference; the element in claim 1 regarding the analog signal manifold is not disclosed. Analogous independent claim 16, which contains similar limitations, to claim 1 is also not anticipated by the Ashgar reference and the Applicant requests allowance of claim 16. Dependent claims 2-8, and 10 include the patentable subject matter of claim 1, and the Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of these claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Number 5,790,817 (Asghar) in view of US Patent Number 6,976,021 (Ramakrishnan). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

The Ramakrishnan reference is cited for disclosing re-usable resources whereby a DRAM memory stores a hash table and active doubly inked lists that are managed via a resource allocation module. However, the Ramakrishnan reference fails to provide the missing analog signal manifold disclosed by the Applicant. Claims 9 and 11 depend from claim 1 and contain the same novel subject matter. This being the case, the applicant respectfully requests the allowance of claims 9 and 11.

Prior Art Not Relied Upon

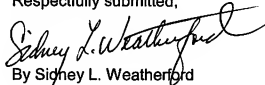
In paragraph 21 on page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sidney L. Weatherford", written over the typed name.

By Sidney L. Weatherford
Registration No. 45,602

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Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11
Plano, Texas 75024

(972) 583-8656
sidney.weatherford@ericsson.com